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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7278 7590 05/15/2009
DARBY & DARBY P.C.
P.O. BOX 770
Church Street Station
New York, NY 10008-0770

EXAMINER	
BERNSTEIN, MICHAEL	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1796	
DATE MAILED: 05/15/2009	

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/523,085	02/02/2005	Hiroo Muramoto	202410/202402-US0	8505

TITLE OF INVENTION: SOLID POLYMER ELECTROLYTE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	08/17/2009

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

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Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/523,085	02/02/2005	Hiroo Muramoto	20241/0202402-US0	8505

TITLE OF INVENTION: SOLID POLYMER ELECTROLYTE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	08/17/2009

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
BERNSHTEYN, MICHAEL	1796	524-556000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a **Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
 (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____
 Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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EXAMINER

BERNSITTEYN, MICHAEL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

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DATE MAILED: 05/15/2009

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 232 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 232 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

10/523,085

Examiner

MICHAEL M. BERNSTEIN

Applicant(s)

MURAMOTO ET AL.

Art Unit

1796

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 03/03/2009.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-6,9,11,12,14-20,23-25 and 27.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 03/03/2009
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/Michael M. Bernstein/
Examiner, Art Unit 1796

/David Wu/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is a response to the remarks filed on March 3, 2009. No claims have amended, canceled or added.
2. In view of the remarks and Terminal Disclaimer, double patenting rejection of claims 1, 3-6, 9, 11, 12, 14-20, 23-25, and 27 has been withdrawn.
3. Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 11, 12, 14-20, 23-25, and 27 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

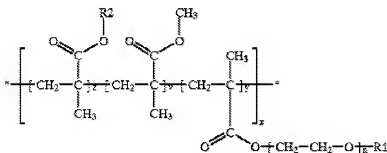
4. Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 11, 12, 14-20, 23-25, and 27 are allowed.
5. The following is examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present claims are allowable over the closest references: Gavelin et al. (U. S. Patent Application Publication 2001/0033974 or U.S. Patent 6,596,440) and Fujimoto et al. (WO 02/33765 A or U. S. Patent Application Publication 2006/0204854).

Gavelin et al. disclose a polymer electrolyte comprising a polymer, a metal salt and possibly at least one plasticizer or solvent, wherein the polymer is an amphiphilic graft copolymer comprising a backbone carrying hydrophilic and hydrophobic grafts attached to different carbon atoms in the backbone, wherein the hydrophobic grafts are selected from the group of fluorinated chains or alkyl chains having at least 8 carbon atoms. Gavelin et al. disclose a polymer battery cell comprising a cathode, an anode, and a polymer gel electrolyte comprising a metal salt, a polymer and possibly at least one plasticizer or solvent, wherein the polymer is an amphiphilic graft copolymer

comprising a backbone carrying hydrophilic and hydrophobic grafts attached to different carbon atoms in the backbone (abstract).

The amphiphilic graft copolymer of the invention comprises a main-chain (backbone) carrying hydrophilic (polar) side-chains as well as hydrophobic (nonpolar) side-chains (grafts), wherein the hydrophobic grafts are selected from the group of fluorinated chains or alkyl chains containing at least 8 carbon atoms. The hydrophobic grafts could also be selected among olefins carrying methyl groups, olefins carrying siloxanes and olefins carrying aromatic groups. The backbone in the polymer is a polyacrylate or polymethacrylate. The hydrophilic segments preferably consist of oligo(ethylene oxide) chains, but other hydrophilic chains may be used, such as, for example oligo(propylene oxide) chains. According to a preferred embodiment the hydrophobic segments comprise fluorinated alkyl chains, fluorinated aryl chains or alkyl groups having at least 8 carbon atoms, most preferred fluorinated alkyl chains. A preferred amphiphilic graft copolymer used for preparation of the polymer electrolyte has the following structure (pages 3-4, [0028]-[0035]):



[0029] wherein:

[0030] z, y and v refer to the composition given as weight percent of the total weight of the polymer, the value of z may vary from 5 to 90 weight percent, y is in the range of 5 to 95 weight percent, and v is in the range of 0 to 90 weight percent;

[0031] n is an integer with a value in the range of 5 to 35, and

[0032] R1 is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, preferably C₁₋₅ alkyl.

[0033] R2 is selected from the group consisting of a fluorinated C₁₋₂₀ alkyl.

[0034] Preferably the value of z may vary from 10 to 80 weight percent, y is in the range of 10 to 90 weight percent, and v is in the range of 0 to 50 weight percent. R2 is preferably selected from a fluorinated C₁₋₂₀ alkyl.

[0035] z, y and v may vary as has been described above. The content of the oligo(ethylene oxide) is important. n,

which is the integer for the repeating number of oligo(ethylene oxide) may vary between 5 and 35. If n is large, then y can have a small value in the interval, as well as if n is small, y can have a large value. However, it is the balance between the hydrophilic parts and the hydrophobic parts in the copolymer that is important for the ion conductivity. For example, if n=2 and v=0, then y should not be less than 40 wt % and z not less than 15 wt %, if n=9 and v=0, then y should not be less than 15 wt % and z not less than 10 wt % and if n=23 and v=0, then y should not be less than 11 wt % and z not less than 10 wt %.

Fujimoto et al. disclose a gel-type polymer electrolyte, wherein said polymer comprises (A) an ethylene-unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymer or a derivative thereof and (B) a polyalkylene oxide having a hydroxyl group at one terminal thereof or a derivative thereof, which are bonded together by an ester bond. The gel-type polymer electrolyte has a high ionic conductivity, and makes it possible to provide a cell which has excellent charge/discharge characteristics at low temperatures as well as at high temperatures (abstract).

However, Gavelin et al. and Fujimoto et al. do not disclose or fairly suggest a solid polymer electrolyte comprising an electrolyte salt, and a copolymer which contains block chains A, B and C arranged in a sequence B, A, C, and particularly the block chain B comprising R_9 as an aryl group, and the block chain C comprising R_{13} as an aryl group or a heteroaryl group as required by instant claim 1.

It is noted that these both references are mentioned as "X" references in Supplementary European Search Report dated on March 3, 2009.

6. As of the date of this Notice of Allowability, the Examiner has not located or identified any reference that can be used singularly or in combination with another references including Gavelin et al. and Fujimoto et al. to render the present invention anticipated or obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.
7. In the light of the above discussion, it is evident as to why the present claims are patentable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delay, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reason for Allowance".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL M. BERNSHTEYN whose telephone number is (571)272-2411. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 8-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David W. Wu can be reached on 571-272-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Application/Control Number: 10/523,085
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Page 7

/Michael M. Bernshteyn/
Examiner, Art Unit 1796

/M. M. B./
Examiner, Art Unit 1796

/David Wu/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796